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Remarks

Applicant has amended the specification as filed at paragraphs [0010] and [0011] to conform those paragraphs with new independent claims 44 and 45, respectively, and a new paragraph has been added after paragraph [0011] to conform with new independent claim 46, in this response.

Claims 1-43 are pending prior to this response.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-43 under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. In particular, independent claims 1, 18 and 32 were rejected due to the limitation "persisting" considered by the Examiner as vague and not clear, and the relative dependent claims were rejected based on dependency.

The Examiner has further rejected claims 1-13, 15-29, 31-41 and 43 under U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Skufca et al. US patent 6,922,695 B2, hereinafter "Skufca", in view of Wheeler et al. US Patent 6,839,714 B2, hereinafter "Wheeler".

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner indicated claims 14, 30 and 42 as allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under U.S.C. 112, 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Applicant has cancelled in this response independent claim 1 and related dependent claim 14, independent claim 18 and related dependent claims 19 and 30, independent claim 32 and related dependent claims 41 and 42. New independent claims 44, 45, 46 which replace independent claims 1, 18, and 32, respectively, have been added in this response. No further fee is needed for new claims 44-46 as the application as filed had 3 independent claims and forty-three total claims and after entry of this amendment will have three independent claims and thirty-eight total claims.

Concerning the rejection under U.S.C. 103 (a), new independent claim 44 includes the combination of original base claim 1 and original dependent claim 14, new independent claim 45 includes the combination of original base claim 18 and original dependents claim 19 and 30, new independent claim 46 includes the combination of

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original base claim 32 and original dependent claims 41 and 42. Therefore, new added claims 44-46 do not introduce new matter and comprise allowable subject matter over the combination of "Skufca in view of "Wheeler", as indicated by the Examiner.

Concerning the rejection of claims 1-43 under 35 U.S.C. 112, the applicant has maintained the limitation "persisting" in the set of claims attached to this response and respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's statement, since this limitation has a well defined, clear and unambiguous meaning for one skilled in the art in the technical field of the subject patent application. In the field of software programming, and in particular in object oriented programming, terms like "persisting", "persisted" and similar, are commonly used to indicate object/data which, after creation, can be stored for a later use. The applicant would also respectfully point out that the USPTO has issued in recent years many patents including such limitations.

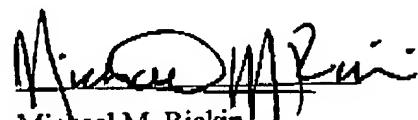
Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112.

Hence, reconsideration of the application in accordance with Rules 111 and 112 is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 17, 2006

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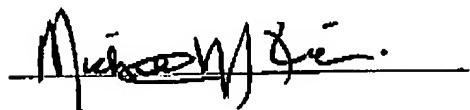
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I hereby certify that this Amendment Under Rule 111 Transmitted By Facsimile of 12 total pages is being transmitted by facsimile on August 17, 2006 to Examiner Robinson, Greta Lee of Group Art Unit 2168 of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. (571) 273-8300.

Typed or printed name of person signing this certificate:

Michael M. Rickin

Date: 8/17/06